



## **First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Weekly Update to the State Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – October 21, 2014**

### **FirstNet News**

- The deadline to respond to both the [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) and the [Public Notice](#) has been extended to October 27.
- FirstNet conducted the fourth state consultation meeting in Washington on October 16 with over 170 public safety communications officials from across the state. Attendees included representatives from the police, fire, and EMS public safety community, as well as officials from the Governor's office and seven tribal nations. The meeting included a robust dialog about FirstNet, our acquisition planning, and our consultation process. Read more on the FirstNet blog: <http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/washington-initial-consultation-meeting>.
- FirstNet presented at the Idaho Public Safety Technologies Summit on October 14, at TIA's Public Safety Communication Working Group Brown Bag Lunch on October 15 and at the PCIA - The Wireless Infrastructure Association Federal Properties workshop on October 16.
- FirstNet will conduct SPOC calls with Regions I and II and X on October 23.
- The next consultation meetings will be October 29 in Montana; November 6 in Utah; November 18 in Iowa; and December 12 in Florida.
- To date, FirstNet has received completed state consultation checklists from 28 states and territories: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Guam, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Utah, Washington, Washington DC, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

### **From the States and PSAC Organizations**

- FirstNet is presenting at the Wyoming Broadband Summit and Kansas Office of Emergency Communications National Public Safety Broadband Network Conference on October 21, at the Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group (CITIG) Workshop on October 22, and at the Nevada Fire Chiefs Association 2014 Fire Shows Reno on October 23.

## Media Watch

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### *Traditional Media*

This past week, there were articles and blogs recapping some of our outreach efforts, including the Oregon State Consultation meeting, and the Public Notice & Comment initiative. An online news outlet that does not cover FirstNet on a regular basis called "Governing" incorporated the main conclusions from the McClatchy story from last month about the beginnings of FirstNet.

### **Urgent Communications: What's in a name? For FirstNet, "public-safety entity" definition to critical to system planning, business model (10/16/14)**

Today, FirstNet is preparing to deploy an unprecedented nationwide broadband system for public safety, and it has initiated a proceeding to ask, "What is a public-safety entity?" On the surface, it might sound like an almost trivial inquiry. In reality, the answer may not be as straightforward as some initially might think, and the final determination promises to have significant ramifications on FirstNet's network design and self-sustaining funding plans. <http://urgentcomm.com/blog/what-s-name-firstnet-public-safety-entity-definition-critical-system-planning-business-model?page=1>

### **Emergency Management: Impressions from Oregon's FirstNet Consultation (10/14/14)**

FirstNet in Washington State will kick-off this coming Thursday in Thurston County. But before that happens, [Oregon had its FirstNet consultation](#) last week. Bill Schrier, who is leading Washington state's efforts, blogged on that event and I recommend you read his post at the link provided above. My thoughts on what he wrote: <http://www.emergencymgmt.com/emergency-blogs/disaster-zone/firstnetconsultationimpressions.html>

## **Governing.com: First Responders Left in the Dark on Public Safety Network (10/13/14)**

The people who would actually use the first nationwide public safety wireless communications network have largely been left out of its creation, possibly hurting its effectiveness. Nobody said it was going to be easy. After Sept. 11 exposed huge holes in the country's public safety communications capabilities, Congress passed a law on Feb. 22, 2012, creating the First Responder Network Authority (better known as FirstNet) to build a nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety and emergency response. <http://www.governing.com/topics/public-justice-safety/gov-public-safety-broadband-network-hiring-problems.html>

## **The Chief Seattle Geek Blog: Oregon's FirstNet Consultation - Impressions (10/12/14)**

FirstNet is required to consult with state governments about its plans, and then develop a design and plan for each state. This state plan will include what parts of the state will be covered, who can use the network in the state, and what the costs will be. FirstNet is starting to launch the consultation and design process, state by state. I was fortunate to be present on October 8th when FirstNet staff conducted their initial consultation with officials in the state of Oregon at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) in Salem. <http://schrier.wordpress.com/2014/10/12/oregons-firstnet-consultation-impressions/>

### *Social Media*

The Communications Team promoted FirstNet's presence at several stakeholder events this past week over social media. The team also continues to use social media to promote the RFI and Public Notice to increase awareness. The FirstNet Twitter account now has more than 1,043 followers, and the LinkedIn account has more than 275 followers. The FirstNet [YouTube account](#) continues to gain an increased numbers of views, with the [FirstNet and NG911](#) video generating the most interest at 585 views. Our blog posts from this week can be found at: <http://www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog>